

Metallic heart sound

N

Y

Tissue

Mechanical

Ball

Disc

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## Murmur with a scar

Prosthesis type	Aortic position	Mitral position	
Caged ball valves	Sharp opening sound		More durable but more haemolysis
Tilting disc valves	Sharp closing sound		More thrombogenic
	Soft opening sound		

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**TABLE 2. CHARACTERISTICS OF VARIOUS PROSTHETIC VALVES.**

VALVE TYPE	DURABILITY	EFFECTIVE ORIFICE AREA*		THROMBOGENICITY†
		AORTIC	MITRAL	
		cm <sup>2</sup>		
Caged-ball	Excellent	1.2-1.6	1.4-3.1	++++
Single-tilting-disk	Good to excellent	1.5-2.1	1.9-3.2	+++
Bileaflet-tilting-disk	Excellent	2.4-3.2	2.8-3.4	++
Heterograft bioprosthesis	Fair	1.0-1.7	1.3-2.7	+ to ++
Homograft bioprosthesis	Good	3.0-4.0	Not available	+

\*The normal orifice area is 3.0 to 4.0 cm<sup>2</sup> for an aortic valve and 4.0 to 6.0 cm<sup>2</sup> for a mitral valve.

†A single plus sign denotes minimal thrombogenicity, and four plus signs maximal thrombogenicity.

High flow

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Aortic	Mitral
Yes	Yes
Yes	No
Yes	No
Yes	No

Low flow

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Aortic	Mitral
Yes	Yes
Yes	No
Yes	No
Yes	No

Type of Valve	Aortic Prosthesis		Mitral Prosthesis	
	Normal Findings	Abnormal Findings	Normal Findings	Abnormal Findings
Caged-Ball (Starr-Edwards)		Aortic diastolic murmur Decreased intensity of opening or closing click		Low-frequency apical diastolic murmur High-frequency holosystolic murmur
Single-Tilting-Disk (Bjork-Shiley or Medtronic-Hall)		Decreased intensity of closing click		High-frequency holosystolic murmur Decreased intensity of closing click
Bileaflet-Tilting-Disk (St. Jude Medical)		Aortic diastolic murmur Decreased intensity of closing click		High-frequency holosystolic murmur Decreased intensity of closing click
Heterograft Bioprosthesis (Hancock or Carpentier-Edwards)		Aortic diastolic murmur		High-frequency holosystolic murmur

NEJM 335:407,1996  
Branuwald 6<sup>th</sup> ed. P 1699

## What is abnormal in the abnormal?

- Loss of closing sound or opening sound
- Regurgitant murmur
- Life-threatening prosthetic valve dysfunction can occur 'silently'